barbara howard 680 mission street, apartment 32m san francisco CA 94105

Aug 29th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

To Whom It May Concern - I am writing to express my concern about changes that may affect my broadband access. I am a retired person who has a small virtual bookkeeping business to help me defray the costs of living in san francisco.

I have experienced so much frustration because there is a lack of competition in the marketplace for broadband access and services. Right now I have to options - cable or dsl. Pricing is prohibitive for a retired person on a fixed income.

Lack of competition creates this situation - cable companies have little to no competition so they don't care about customer rates. Behemoth phone companies lack competition so they don't care about affordable rates. A free market with no competition leads to excessively high pricing and little access to customer care. Have you ever tried to call AT*T and get your problem solved? Were you transferred to department to department until the call was disconnected? We, the average consumer, suffer with this.

Broadband is critical to my work. Broadband is essential to my periods of relaxing.

I want to have MORE options not less. I want to have MORE competition not less.

Please, please...it's in your hands to help the little person and keep access to broadband for everyone at a fair rate with lots of competition.

Thank you

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